

**What is claimed is:**

1. An evaluation apparatus of named entities giving an evaluation value to named entities included in a document comprising:
  - a document weight calculation section which defines a mutual relevance among a plurality of documents including the named entities as an object to be given the evaluation value, and calculating the weight value of said each document based on the relevance concerned; and
  - an evaluation value calculation section calculating the evaluation value of said named entities by carrying out the calculation processing using the weight value of said each document.
2. An evaluation apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said plurality of documents is managed under a tree structure, and said document weight calculation section defines said relevance between respective documents corresponding to the existing location of said each document in said tree structure.
3. An evaluation apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said document weight calculation section increases or decreases the weight value of one document and the other one document corresponding to the number of nodes of the tree structure common to the one document concerned and the other one document concerned.
4. An evaluation apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said document weight calculation section increases or decreases the weight value of one document and the other one document corresponding to the number of branches of the tree structure existing between the one document concerned and the other one document concerned.
5. An evaluation apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein if one

document and the other one document are managed under the different trees, said document weight calculation section maximizes or minimizes the weight value of the one document concerned and the other one document concerned.

6. An evaluation apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said document weight calculation section defines the relevance between respective documents corresponding to the reference relation between said respective documents.

7. An evaluation apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein said document weight calculation section increases or decreases the weight value of one document and the other one document corresponding to whether or not there exists the third document which directly or indirectly refers to both of the one document concerned and the other one document concerned.

8. An evaluation apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein said document weight calculation section increases or decreases the weight value of one document and the other one document corresponding to whether or not the one document concerned directly or indirectly refers to the other one document concerned.

9. An evaluation apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein if there is no other one document referring to one document, said document weight calculation section maximizes or minimizes the weight value of the one document concerned.

10. An evaluation apparatus as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a document collection section collecting said plurality of

document; and

a document relevance storage section storing the mutual relevance of the documents collected by said document collection section.

11. An evaluation method of named entities giving an evaluation value to named entities included in a document comprising:

a document weight calculation process defining a mutual relevance among a plurality of documents including the named entities as an object to be given the evaluation value and calculating the weight value of said each document based on the relevance concerned; and

an evaluation value calculation process calculating the evaluation value of said named entities by carrying out the calculation processing using the weight value of said each document.

12. An evaluation method as claimed in claim 11, wherein said plurality of documents is managed under a tree structure, and in said document weight calculation process, the relevance between said respective documents is defined corresponding to the existing location of said each document in said tree structure.

13. An evaluation method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the weight value of one document and the other one document is increased or decreased corresponding to the number of nodes of the tree structure common to the one document concerned and the other one document concerned.

14. An evaluation method claimed in claim 12, wherein the weight value of one document and the other one document is increased or decreased corresponding to the number of branches of the tree structure

existing between the one document concerned and the other one document concerned.

15. An evaluation method as claimed in claim 12, wherein if one document and the other one document are managed under the different trees, the weight value of the one document concerned and the other one document concerned is maximized or minimized.

16. An evaluation method as claimed in claim 11, wherein in the document weight calculation process, the relevance between respective documents is defined corresponding to the reference relation between said respective documents.

17. An evaluation method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the weight value of one document and the other one document is increased or decreased corresponding to whether or not there exists the third document which directly or indirectly refers to both of the one document concerned and the other one document concerned.

18. An evaluation method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the weight value of one document and the other one document is increased or decreased corresponding to whether or not the one document concerned directly or indirectly refers to the other one document concerned.

19. An evaluation method as claimed in claim 16, wherein if there is no other one document referring to one document, the weight value of the one document concerned becomes maximum or minimum.

20. An evaluation method as claimed in claim 11 further comprising a document collection process collecting said plurality of document; and

a document relevance storage process storing the mutual relevance of the documents collected in said document collection process,

wherein said document collection process and said document relevance storage process are carried out at least before said document weight calculation process.